

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/796,487  
Preliminary Amendment dated December 19, 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                       |   |                             |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| IN THE APPLICATION OF | : | Yuichi Ueda                 |
| FOR                   | : | ARTICLE CONVEYING APPARATUS |
| SERIAL NO.            | : | 10/796,487                  |
| FILED                 | : | March 9, 2004               |
| CONFIRMATION NO.      | : | 2312                        |
| EXAMINER              | : | Gregory W. Adams            |
| ART UNIT              | : | 3652                        |
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*OK to enter  
2/7/07 GWA*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.